

a second coining area formed in said lead element and positioned between said lead portion and said carrier strip portion; and

a connector housing formed around said lead portion, said connector housing including said fence element covering the said first coining area such that said carrier strip portion can be separated from said lead portion without affecting the stability of said lead portion, said second coining area positioned adjacent said fence element outside of said connector housing.

Please replace claim 9 with the following:

9. A method of securing wire bondable leads in a connector housing comprising:

coining a lead element in a first coining area and a second coining area;

forming a connector housing over a lead portion of said lead element;

forming a fence portion over said first coining area such that said second coining area is positioned adjacent said fence element outside of said connector housing; and

separating a carrier strip portion from said lead portion in the location of said second coining area.

Please add new claim 16:

16. A wire bondable connector assembly as described in claim 1, wherein said lead portion and said carrier strip portion are positioned within a common plane.

Please add new claim 17:

17. A method of securing wire bondable leads in a connector housing as described in claim 9, wherein said lead portion and said carrier strip portion are positioned within a common plane.